

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 14-32 are currently pending. Claim 19 has been deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 14 is amended herein. Claims 1-13 were cancelled in a previous amendment.

Amendment to the Claims

Claim 14 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 19. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Rejection based on Sakaguchi

Applicants believe that Examiner has rejected claims 14-18 and 20-32 as being anticipated by Sakaguchi (U.S. Patent 6,495,246). In numbered paragraph 3 of the referenced action, Examiner states that claims 14-19 and 20-32 were anticipated Sakaguchi (U.S. Patent 6,495,243); however, numbered paragraph 5 and the Office Action Summary state that claim 19 is objected to as being dependent based claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants submit that Sakaguchi does not teach or suggest a coextruded heat-sealable film structure, comprising, *inter alia*, a heat-sealable layer on the second side of the core layer comprising (i) a thermoplastic polymer and (ii) a slip system comprising a silicone gum having a viscosity in the range of 10 to 20 million centistokes present in amount from about 0.2 wt. % to about 2.0 wt. % of the heat-sealable layer and at least one antiblocking agent present in an amount from about 0.05 wt. % to about 0.5 wt. % of the heat-sealable layer, as now claimed.

Rather, Sakaguchi teaches away from the claimed invention, disclosing the use of diorganopolysiloxanes which have a viscosity of less than 2 million centistokes and a molecular weight of 1×10^4 to 18×10^4 . See, col. 5-62 - col. 6, lines 1-3, where Sakaguchi states that the "the viscosity of diorganopolysiloxane (B) at 25° C. is generally about 1×10^4 to 2×10^6 centistokes and preferably about 1×10^5 to 1×10^6 centistokes." Moreover, Sakaguchi states that such diorganopolysiloxanes which have an average molecular weight that exceeds 18×10^4 cannot be uniformly compounded with heat-sealable olefin polymers.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request Examiner to withdraw his rejection of the claims, as amended, and solicit a prompt notice of allowance. Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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